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New York Heart Association

*CONFERENCE ON POSSIBILITIES AND ACTUALITIES
IN THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL CARE*

Held at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York, November 21, 1966

Foreword

The rapid and profound changes in the means for financing and delivering medical care led the New York Heart Association to devote its annual conference on problems in public health to this topic.

Medicare, Medicaid, and the federal program of grants for Regional Medical Programs in heart disease, cancer, and stroke are the major factors in the new developments, and the conference accordingly centered on them. Under the stimulus of these programs, the major medical centers in the country, where high-quality medical care has been concentrated, are attempting to find ways in which to extend quality care more widely, while maintaining high standards. The public, through the formation of local committees of responsible community groups, is indicating in a more effective way than ever before what its needs are and what is expected in medical services.

As a result, a new partnership is emerging among the federal and state governments, the medical centers, and the public in developing flexible, dynamic, high-quality medical care programs for everyone. This can come about only through a continuing exchange to which the New York Heart Association hoped to contribute by convening this conference. The speakers, invited from near and far corners of the United States, were selected because of their direct involvement with the various expanding medical care programs made possible by recent legislation. It is our hope that the presentations will be found informative and will bring about increased understanding of the portent of these programs for the future.

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